

# THE BRITISH AND FOREIGN ANTI-SLAVERY REPORTER.

UNDER THE SANCTION OF THE BRITISH AND FOREIGN ANTI-SLAVERY SOCIETY.

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[PRICE 4d.]

## FINAL ABOLITION OF SLAVERY IN CEYLON.

WE have great pleasure in laying before the public the following correspondence.

TO G. W. HOPE, ESQ., &C. &C.

Sir,—During a recent visit to France, in which I was brought into contact with some of the influential members of the French Anti-Slavery Society, and with many devoted friends of that cause, I was enabled to give them satisfactory information in relation to the abolition of slavery in all parts of the British empire, with the exception of Ceylon, the peculiarities of which case I fully explained.

Without entering into details with which you, Sir, must be perfectly familiar, I would merely call your attention to the fact, that, owing to the non-registration of the slaves in that colony under the local ordinance passed in 1843, the liberty of the great bulk of them had been secured, with the entire approbation of her Majesty's Government. There yet remained, however, a small number (379) in the Kandian provinces, whose legal right to liberty yet remained to be secured. In Lord Stanley's despatch to the Governor of Ceylon, dated 5th June, 1843, they are thus referred to,—“I am still without a detailed report, which I should wish to receive, as to the state of slavery in the Kandian provinces. But the information of which we are in possession leads me to hope, that the remains of slavery are merely nominal, that they may speedily and safely be brought to a termination, and to feel very confident that, in the intrinsic value of the slave, there can be no valid ground for any expectation of compensation.” Presuming that this information has been received, and trusting that measures have been taken to secure the Kandian slaves their liberty, I have respectfully, on behalf of the Committee of the British and Foreign Anti-Slavery Society, to request that you will favour them with information on this point. It will be in the highest degree satisfactory for them to learn that at this moment, in no portion of the British empire can a single human being be legally held as a slave, and to communicate the gratifying fact to the friends of the anti-slavery cause on the continent of Europe, and in the United States.

I have the honour to be, Sir, your obedient servant,  
JNO. SCOBLE, Sec.

New Broad-street, 13th Nov., 1845.

REPLY.

Downing-street, 13th Nov., 1845.

Sir,—I am directed by Lord Stanley to acknowledge the receipt of your letter on the subject of slavery in Ceylon.

His Lordship desires me to inform you, in reply, that an ordinance was enacted by the Legislative Council of Ceylon, in the month of December last, to provide for the total abolition of slavery in Ceylon, and that the ordinance has been confirmed and allowed by the Queen.

I am, Sir, your most obedient servant,  
(Signed) JAS. STEPHEN.

Jno. Scoble, Esq.

## BRITISH GUIANA.—THE NEW ORDINANCES.

SEVERAL weeks ago we inserted from the Guiana papers some passages which announced the probable enactment of some stringent and oppressive ordinances, tending to render the condition of the peasantry far too much like slavery. By the mail last received we learn that the first of the new batch of ordinances has made its appearance, under the style and title of a rural police ordinance. We take from the *Guiana Times* the following account of its origin and provisions:—

“British Guiana contains numerous townships and villages, but only two chief towns, Georgetown, the metropolis of the province, and New Amsterdam, the capital of the county of Berbice. A police-magistrate's office was established in and for Georgetown, in the year 1839. Down to the period of the enactment of the new ordinance, the rural parts of the colony possessed no tribunal for the trial of petty offences, more accessible or summary than an inferior criminal court, composed of a sheriff and three or more justices. For the purposes of the new ordinance, all parts of the colony are to be regarded as rural, which are not within the limits of either of the two chief towns.

“The persons who are to possess judicial authority under the new ordinance, are those justices of the peace whom the governor may from time to time include in a special commission to that effect. Every such justice is to sit separately, constituting a court of himself. He is to be empowered to receive complaints on oath, to summon witnesses, and to summon, try, and fine and imprison the parties complained against. The fine may not be less than one dollar, or more than 24 dollars, and the duration of the imprisonment may not exceed six days. But when the convicted parties either neglect or refuse to pay the fine, the imprisonment may be for thirty days. The justice may adjourn a complaint from

time to time, as he sees fit. The processes of the justice are not to be quashed on account of mere want of form, and there is to be no appeal, of any judicial sort, from his decisions. Only the governor, on good cause shown, may remit the remainder of a long term of imprisonment, restore the fine levied, and further adopt the extreme course of superseding the justice.

“We shall next enumerate the offences, of which the justices under the new commission are to have cognizance.

“1. Breaches of the peace, not deserving a severer punishment than a fine of 24 dollars, with costs.

“2. Petty thefts, the value of the property stolen not exceeding 24 dollars.

“3. The obtaining, under false or fraudulent pretences, of property of a like value.

“4. Embezzlement of the same.

“5. Resetting of stolen property of a like value.

“6. Malicious injury to property, the damage not exceeding 24 dollars.

“7. Endangering property by the negligent use of fire.

“8. Entering on premises without permission of the owner or occupier, and refusing to quit them.

“9. Indecent exposure of the person.

“10. Indecency or profanity on the highway or elsewhere, or violent and abusive language.

“11. Cruelty to animals.

“12. Furious or careless riding or driving.

“13. Discharging of fire-arms or fireworks on or near the highway.

“14. Flying of kites on or near the highway.

“15. Bathing near to, or in sight of, the highway.

“16. Leaving carcasses unburied at or near the highway.”

Our contemporary justly observes that “this statute is likely to exercise a powerful influence, whether beneficial or mischievous, over the relations and aspect of society in the country districts;” and, without inquiring for the present whether this ordinance is intended for the country or the town, it is plain at a glance that it is of excessive rigour. Look at the list of offences, for example, which are punishable under it. One of these is “entering on premises without leave of the owner or occupier;” so that persons residing in cottages to which there is no access by a public thoroughfare (and there are many such) may be arbitrarily prevented from receiving a visit of any kind, or under any emergency. Another is “violent or abusive language,” a phrase which, according to the temper of the accuser or the judge, may be construed to comprehend many of the most ordinary and harmless forms of speech. Another is “indecent exposure of the person (who can tell what may be meant by these?) on the highway or elsewhere.” “Or elsewhere?” Why, this carries the jurisdiction of the ordinance, not only into a man's house, but into his most secret chamber, a position in which indulgences of the tongue, however wanting in good taste or good morals, are not at all events injurious to society. The enactments against exposure of the person and bathing are evidently capable of vexatious application.

The machinery of the ordinance also is very tyrannical. It enacts that “each and every police-officer shall have full power and authority to apprehend any person committing any of the acts” punishable under it, and thus lays the community open to a very large amount of petty—and not always petty—annoyance, where the parties (as in this case is but too probable) may be disposed either to indulge themselves in such amusement, or to make themselves the tools of others. The magistrates to act under this ordinance are to be appointed at the mere pleasure of the Governor, so that there is no guarantee against the jurisdiction conferred being placed in the hands of the ordinary magistrates, that is to say, of the planters themselves. In addition to this, all charges are to be disposed of by a single magistrate, and no appeal can be made against his decision, so that the population will, by this ordinance, be placed altogether at the unrestrained disposal of individuals, and subjected to an incalculable amount of arbitrariness and caprice. The case would be bad enough if it were the arbitrariness and caprice of the magistrates alone which would be brought into bearing; but this is not so in a system of rural police. These gentlemen, in travelling through the country districts will be exposed to influences tending still further to pervert their judgment, and to make them pliant instruments of the planters' will. Take the following sketch from our contemporary, who must be well acquainted with facts of this class:—

“There are no inns, except in the two chief towns of the province. The justice, in many cases, under the proclamation of the governor, is to hold his court on plantations, in the big house. But the justice's horse is jaded, and the justice is thirsty. ‘Boy, rub down the magistrate's horse, and give him a feed of oats. A good one! Yearie? (Do you hear?)’ ‘Yes, massa.’ ‘Cupido, five sangarees! Mr. Smith (suppose it is Mr. Smith,) let me offer you a sandwich!’ In the meantime it may be that there are, humbly waiting, at the gallery steps, either complainants prepared to accuse the donor of the oats, the sangaree, and the sandwiches, or defendants whom he has accused. The justice picks his teeth, wipes his face, which glows like the full moon newly risen, tolerates



all sorts of irregular interruptions on the part of his host, but silences, with a menace of instant commitment for contempt, every interference on the other side, tries to look sagacious and energetic, and gives his award. If you fancy him to stay dinner, and take a bed, with his host, your imagination will only complete a picture of what is too often a reality."

To administer *justice* under such circumstances, magistrates must be more than men. Such a system must constitute a revival of one of the worst features of the olden time of slavery, and will go far towards reproducing some of its greatest atrocities. It will be an aggravation of the mischiefs of such a system that they will be perpetrated in darkness. The magistrates, on the one hand, are not under obligation to report to the Government the cases they adjudicate; and, on the other, there are no reporters to attend their courts on behalf of the public. On the contrary every means will be employed by the planters to prevent the wrongs done from being ever heard of, or, if heard of, from being made capable of proof and correction. The ordinance appears to us, whatever may be its motive, adapted to turn a quiet colony into a disturbed one, and to create far more important evils than it can remedy. If it is meant well, it is a gross blunder, which should be immediately arrested; and if otherwise, which, we are sorry to say we think but too probable, it is a fault which should be no less promptly rebuked. Alarm is already excited among the labouring population, and agitation is commencing. It behoves the proprietors of estates in British Guiana, who are to a large extent absentees, to attend in time to what their factors are concocting in their name. Let them hear the warning faithfully, and not intemperately, given by the paper we have already quoted. It is in the following terms:—

"Should the absentee proprietors happen to hear, some months hence, of desertions from plantation work, or of turbulence, or of sudden and wide-spread disaster, let them reflect how much of it might have been avoided had their factors been considerate and humane. Ten men to force such a statute on a hundred and twenty thousand men who had no voice at all in its construction! The idea is monstrous! Fortunate it is for some absentees, that their factors are known to take no political part adverse to freedom, but either keep aloof altogether, or favour liberal principles. The dominant party, old slave-mongers, as the members are, would drench the country with the worst social miseries, were there not moderate and just factors, on the spot, whose influence goes far to counteract theirs."

In addition to this clear and unequivocal warning, it may not be without its use to place before proprietors the words of a correspondent of the same paper, albeit they breathe somewhat more of earnestness. He writes thus:—

"In considering these questions, it should be steadily kept in mind, that the executive government of this province, and the colonial members, or planter body, have been, until very recently, at most deadly feud, and that so long as this hostility existed, the members of the executive exerted themselves in protecting the mass of the people as well from injustice in the working of the law as it exists, as from the various attempts made by the planters to enact unjust and coercive laws. These feelings, this protection, seem no longer to exist. The planter legislature granted to the governor 5000*l.* sterling per annum, and a house, with corresponding salaries to other officials, and secured them in possession of their princely incomes for seven years after the expiry of our present civil list; the governor and officials, grateful for such munificence, aided the planters in obtaining an immigration and loan ordinance; bitter hostility was succeeded by friendly relations, these ripened into amity, and have resulted in a coalition between the official and the planter, or old slave clique, from which party, now firmly united, possessing all power in the colony, enabled at pleasure to mislead her Majesty's government at the colonial office, the people of British Guiana have everything to fear, and nothing to hope. The executive seems to be as ready to concede as the old school clique are to demand; and where all this is to end, philanthropy shudders to contemplate. It has resulted already in an enormously increased expenditure of public money, a fashionable and truly autocratic indifference to the interests of the peasantry, a hatred and persecution of those friends of the people who dare to plead the cause of liberty and justice, and who, under the slang phrase of 'turbulent spirits,' are being hunted down. But, planters, believe me, agitation has not yet commenced. God grant, for the sake of all parties concerned, that by a change in your measures, people may not be driven to it as a dernier resource. I well remember when the whole country between Mahaica and Berbice was like a garden; it is now a wilderness,—and I assert, that if unhappily the rest of the colony, still under cultivation, was reduced to the same deplorable state, if black sedge took the place of the cane, the masses of the people could still exist, ay, even though a hoghead of sugar was not manufactured in the colony. Reflect, then, gentlemen of the legislature; I implore you, stay your hands, and check that inclination which is but too plainly shown in your recent acts, to enthrall or partially re-enslave the people. The attempt cannot, must not succeed; but once made, it will be too late; a whole people once justly enraged, thoroughly aroused to a deep sense of wrong, are not easily pacified. Stop, then, I implore you, in your high-handed career, for if you do not, you will surely see your measures lead to a state of affairs which all well-wishers of the colony and the inhabitants as a whole, must deeply deplore."

Really, gentlemen and ladies who have property in British Guiana should see to their interest. For ourselves, we must look at higher objects. Everything that has been done for British Guiana is in jeopardy, and it must not be lost, at least without an effort. The words of the writer we have quoted will be responded to, when he says:—

"To the philanthropist I appeal, that he may prevent the social system being so altered, as to enable the enemies of emancipation to point to future turmoil and bloodshed in Guiana, as an argument against emancipation; and to the British public I appeal, to prevent the people of this province being robbed of that practical freedom which that public paid so liberally in hard cash to secure."

## THE FRENCH LAW ON SLAVERY.

It is already known to our readers that the measure brought forward by the French Government for the regulation of the colonies consisted of two parts, or *projets de loi*; the one comprehending what may, for distinction sake, be called principles, and the other being devoted to practical expedients. The former of these was brought into the Chamber of Peers, and from thence passed, by the usual course, into the Chamber of Deputies; the latter, since it had the character of a money bill, was introduced in the first instance into the Chamber of Deputies, and thence passed into the Chamber of Peers. Casual references were made to it in the course of the debates on the first *projet*; but about the middle of June the second *projet* came on formally for discussion.

The proposition of the Government was materially modified by the Commission, out of whose hands it came in the following form:—

"The following sums are placed at the disposal of the Minister of Marine and the Colonies:

"For the introduction of European workmen and labourers into the colonies.....	120,000
"For the formation, by free and paid labour, of agricultural establishments, for employment and correction.....	360,000
"For a general valuation of the movable and immovable property in French Guiana.....	50,000
"For assisting the redemption of slaves, in such cases* and by such forms as a royal ordinance shall determine.....	400,000
	<hr/> 930,000"

In the discussion of this *projet*,

M. DUBOIS, of Nantes, observed that nothing was said in it of the religious and moral instruction of the slaves. It might be replied, that a former Ministry had obtained a grant of 650,000 francs for this purpose. He had endeavoured to find out what had been done with this money. It was to have been divided into three parts: 200,000 francs for the increase of the clergy; 200,000 francs for the building of chapels; and 250,000 francs for instruction. As to chapels, the return was very imperfect; it appeared, however, that, after the expenditure of a million francs, there were but five or six new chapels. No priest was allowed to go more than once a month on any plantation; the sacraments were scarcely ever administered there; the blacks died without receiving them; and, above all, there were no places of worship. In two colonies, so far from any increase of religious instruction, there had been a diminution. The causes of this were, the resistance of the slaves on the one hand, and of the masters on the other. The magistrates stated that the negroes went readily to splendid ceremonies, because they were amused by them, but that they were repugnant to religious duties and exercises of instruction; and that the masters did nothing to encourage their attendance. They said the slave's body was theirs, but his soul was his own. He did not know what coercive measures could be used, but he thought something ought to be done. It was of no use to depend on the voluntary zeal of individuals; nothing but a powerful organization would effect the object. As religious instruction suffered, so did the elementary. 250,000 francs ought to have been applied to the primary instruction of slaves: but there was not in fact a single school for slaves. Notwithstanding the positive orders of the Government, and the endeavour of several Governors, who had been stopped by public sentiment, the money had been spent on schools for the free and white population. This had been done upon system. All the Governors had replied to the instructions of the Minister, that to begin with instructing the slaves was bad policy. This systematic resistance should be conquered, and it would require the whole force of the Government. He asked the Government, why they had not used authoritative means to correct this usurpation of the public funds? (The Ministers were silent.)

In the discussion of the clauses,

M. BEAUMONT, from the Somme, wished explanation as to the kind of workmen to be introduced into the colonies. Considerable derangement might take place in the colonies, especially on the sugar estates, the managers of which might be able to redeem themselves. Their place might well be supplied by those who had been discharged from the beet-root sugar manufactories at home.

The MINISTER had contemplated this. The Government did not intend, however, to give a free passage to any persons but those who should have entered into engagements to labour with colonial proprietors.

M. DUBOIS afterwards moved an amendment, to the effect "that the Government should hereafter render an account of the expenditure of the money granted for the religious and elementary instruction of slaves." Several efforts were made to draw something from the Minister on this subject: but all he could be induced to say was, "This is not the time." To this M. Ternaux Compans pithily and truly rejoined, "The time never comes."

In the Chamber of Peers this *projet de loi* was introduced by M. de Mackau, with the following observations:

The MINISTER said the arrangements proposed were chiefly

\* Instead of the words "in such cases," the following were afterwards inserted—"when the administration shall think proper."

applicable to the West Indies; Bourbon and Guiana would require different methods. The black population of Guiana, already very much reduced, diminished year by year from a cause (the inequality of the sexes) against which neither the happiness of the slaves nor the kindness of the masters could prevail. Cultivation could not develop itself, and the scarcity of hands rendered it every day more difficult. This large and fertile colony excited the peculiar solicitude of the Government. Its inhabitants appeared to be determined on making great efforts to extricate themselves from a situation which must lead, in a given time, to the abandonment of their estates. A plan, including the formation of a Company, and a mode of enfranchisement which would favour the ultimate introduction of free labourers, had been submitted to the Government by several colonists. It deserved serious consideration. As a preliminary measure, however, it was indispensable to effect a general valuation of property in the colony; for which, without committing the Government to any opinion, he asked 50,000 francs. In Bourbon, the remarkable abundance of capital, and the increase of cultivation, rendered more and more sensible the insufficiency of the labouring population; which, however, through the disproportion of the sexes, was continually decreasing. In order to procure hands, the colonists had thought of availing themselves of their geographical position, and they had made inquiries after Asiatic labourers, once in 1838, and a second time in 1844; but without any important result. But something might result from these operations, if aid were given from the colonial chest. In the *projet* now before them, 400,000 francs were allotted, to aid the redemption of slaves. This would be useful in various cases, although the decision ought to be always in the hands of the Government. The circumstances which might render the application of this fund desirable are these,—the difficulties arising out of the marriage of slaves belonging to different masters; the necessity of not allowing the most important members of the same family to be separated by two such opposite conditions as slavery and liberty; and the power of separating from his master a slave habitually maltreated. While claiming the right of using its discretion, the administration promised to be always just and humane, and to give a particular account of the grants which might be made.

The Prince of Moskwa objected to creating a fund for aiding the redemption of slaves. It was a bastard scheme of emancipation, and threatened the colonies with anarchy.

Baron CHARLES DUPIN referred to the proposed introduction of European workmen, which might be useful if they could be gradually acclimated; but he observed, that the efforts tried by the English in the West Indies had proved abortive. Most of them would die in two or three years, and the rest would leave the estates for other occupations. He should prefer an importation of labourers from China, Hindostan, and Africa. He affirmed that the diminution of the population in Guiana did not arise from the disproportion of the sexes, but from the number of women enfranchised being nearly double that of the men. In Bourbon, in consequence of the continuance of the slave-trade, the disproportion was very great. To 24,766 women there were 41,076 men. He approved of the introduction of Asiatic labourers into Bourbon, and he insisted strongly on the importation of blacks from Africa. He declared that the grant of 400,000 francs for aiding the redemption of slaves had created the utmost alarm among his constituents.

Baron de CROUSELLES expressed his fears lest the institutions for employment should be confounded with institutions for punishment.

M. MERILHOU objected to the fund for aiding the redemption of slaves, because it was contradictory to the former law, which required that the property by which the slave should be purchased should be his own.

The Duke de BROGLIE said, if the Chamber, by having passed the former law, had precluded itself from aiding the redemption of slaves by public funds, he should regard that law as a great misfortune, and as rendering slavery perpetual. It would lead to very few redemptions, if limited to its own action. For two hundred years the right of redemption had existed in the Spanish colonies, with greater facilities than had been given by the French law; but, far from having abolished slavery, it had produced no appreciable effect. Those who had profited by it had been the artisans, the domestic servants, and the objects of specific charity; but to expect that the rural slaves would acquire freedom in this way, would be a strange illusion. He did not depreciate the law. He thought it very well adapted to produce a moral effect. He repeated that, if nothing more should be done for emancipation than had been done by it, slavery would be perpetual. There was then no hope for those who now groaned under their chains. (Hear.)

#### UNITED STATES—THE INTERNAL SLAVE-TRADE.

The following notices of this dreadful traffic are so late as June and September last:—

(From the *Emancipator*.)

#### SLAVE MARKETS AT NEW ORLEANS.

I will relate a fact with regard to the "slave market in New Orleans," called the "Arcade," which I get from an eastern gentleman who spent the winter in that city of whips and chains, prisons and tortures.

Mr. — said he always avoided such scenes as much as possible, for they harrowed his feelings; and the fact that he could not relieve

the poor sufferers, only made him feel worse. But on one occasion he was passing by the Arcade, and hearing something very unusual, was induced to go in. There was a great crowd assembled, and a fine, likely coloured man, apparently about 25 years of age, was placed upon the "stand," well dressed, but looking as though his all had been wrested from him. Three, four, and five hundred dollars were bid for him, and he was finally knocked off to the purchaser. The auctioneer presented him to his future master, and the poor man seemed to be phrenzied. He wrung his hands, wept, and went up to his purchaser and said, "No, sir, I will never serve you, I will die first. I have been torn from my wife, cheated, deceived, cruelly treated, and I have ever been a faithful servant. I have ever been a faithful servant. I have not deserved this, and I will not serve you." Said my informant, he was beaten dreadfully, and dragged off, and the auctioneer began to apologise to the bystanders for the interruption, by saying that the fellow had been brought there by his master in company with his wife, with the promise that they should be sold together, but on getting there, the master had determined to keep the wife and sell the husband, and had that morning been under the necessity of confining the man in gaol until he could get away with the woman, whom he chained and took back again to his plantation, and it was that the fellow was keeping such a fuss about. As this piece is already too long, I will retain another fact for my next article.

M. B. D.

Peoria, Sept. 4, 1845.

(From the *Vermont Phoenix*.)

#### THE SLAVE AUCTION.

New Orleans, June 21, 1845.

FRIEND RYTHET,—This is a city of strange sights. One can witness many scenes here which are not to be witnessed in our Green Mountain State. In the street which forms the division line between the first and third municipality, slaves, attired in their best, are daily exposed to private sale. The "chain-gang," as it is called, may be seen, day after day, labouring in some part of the city. One very hot day I saw this gang, at work with their spades, excavating ditches in one of the streets of the city. There were about fifteen males and five females, all at work, except the driver, with long-handle spades. Each of the men wore a long iron chain on one of his legs, fastened round the ankle, above the knee, and to the waist. The women were not loaded with chains. One of the "gang," a large stout man, gave directions as to the manner of doing the work, and his commands appeared to be implicitly obeyed. Near by sat or lounged a white man, who I supposed was the overseer of the whole. This gang are kept in prison at night, and are employed by the city during the day. They are slaves who had run away from their masters, or for some other crime, had been taken up and confined. To-day I have attended an auction of slaves at Bank's Arcade, near the middle of the city, and the centre of business. Twenty slaves were advertised for sale, in the public papers, of which, however, only six, I think, were "struck off." These, three men, and three women, were sold at prices from ninety to four hundred and eighty dollars. Several of those who were for sale, were sent from South Carolina, mostly from Charleston; but as nothing but the title of property in these were guaranteed, no one bid upon them, and they remained unsold. In regard to the rest, the title to property in them was not only warranted, but their age, character, qualities, condition, and accomplishments were proclaimed. One of the men was very much emaciated and sickly-looking; he was sold for ninety dollars; age, I think, forty, or thereabouts. Another was a young man, who had been brought up to the cigar-making business, and brought four hundred and eighty dollars. He was a bright, intelligent, good-looking young man, and was a runaway from his master. He was represented as having always sustained a good character till he run from his owner. His only fault was, it seems, a desire to be free. Another, also a young man, was offered for sale by the Union Bank of New Orleans, having been taken for debt. He was represented as an excellent man, a man of unexceptionable character, and, as evidence of it, as I suppose, he was said by the auctioneer to have a perfectly smooth back, *i. e.* he had never been whipped.—Three women were also sold, two of them were quite young, and the other about thirty. Their characters, qualities, and condition, were all made known. The youngest was sold for four hundred and fifty dollars. The next, whose peculiar condition was publicly cried, brought a little less; and the other, having a weakness in her back, her only defect, was sold for less still. Two women, with infants in their arms, were brought upon the stand, and offered for sale; but as they were from Charleston, and nothing said about their character or qualifications, no bid was made for them, and they were ordered off.

The auction was held in a large public room, at the back part of which there were accommodations for eating and drinking; which operations were going on, I believe, at the time of the sale. There was a large crowd of men standing around, some there as purchasers, and some, like myself, as spectators. A stand or platform, three or four feet high, was erected on one side of the room, on which sat a clerk, who noted down the particulars of the sale, and on which stood the auctioneer and the slave who was to be sold. The auctioneer was a middle-aged man, well dressed, and had the outward appearance of what is generally termed a gentleman. He did not think it necessary, however, to refrain from the use of profane language. Perhaps he considered it the mark of a gentleman. He cried the slaves, proclaimed their good qualities, age, defects, &c., with the same nonchalance and indiffer-

ence that an auctioneer in Vermont would describe a horse, or a pair of oxen, which he was about to sell to the highest bidder. The slaves showed various emotions, more or less intense. Those who were sent from Charleston for sale wore very sad countenances. One of the young men who was sold, I perceived, eyed his purchaser very closely. Some of them did not appear to care much about being sold; others looked exceedingly dejected. The crowd looked on very calmly as the sale proceeded. When the unfortunate man who was sold for ninety dollars was struck off, a pious Baptist deacon standing by my side very coolly remarked, "That man would be worth more than that to me." The whole scene was to me heart-sickening beyond description. I will not undertake to describe the thoughts and feelings which it excited in my mind, for it would be impossible.—And all this in a Christian land!

Yours truly,  
A. BROWN.

#### THE ANTI-SLAVERY REPORTER.

NOTICE is hereby given to the Friends and Subscribers of the ANTI-SLAVERY REPORTER, that from and after the 1st January, 1846, it will be issued MONTHLY instead of fortnightly, as at present, and that whilst it will be increased to double its present size, its price, with a view to its increased circulation, both at home and abroad, will be reduced to FIVE SHILLINGS per annum, payable in advance if ordered through the Anti-Slavery Office.

#### TO CORRESPONDENTS.

Mr. MURRAY will hear from the Secretary.

### The Anti-Slavery Reporter.

LONDON, NOVEMBER 26, 1845.

WE beg to call the attention of our readers to an advertisement which appears in this day's number, of the intended alteration in the time of issue of the ANTI-SLAVERY REPORTER, which has hitherto appeared every fortnight, but which will be issued from the beginning of the next year, 1846, on the first of every month, except, of course, when it falls on a Sunday. The price, it will be seen, is to be reduced from eight shillings and eightpence, to five shillings per annum. The Committee of the British and Foreign Anti-Slavery Society hope by this means greatly to increase its home circulation, and to be enabled thereby to cover the expense connected with a large gratuitous foreign circulation; they would, therefore, respectfully and earnestly urge on the attention of the Ladies' and Gentlemen's Auxiliary Associations throughout the country the necessity of obtaining additional subscribers for the ensuing year. The Committee will use their best exertions to improve as far as possible its form, and to render it worthy, in every respect, of the great cause it has hitherto so efficiently subserved. The Committee will be happy to learn that some of their friends have taken this subject under their special care, and would add, that lists of subscribers should be forwarded to the office agreeably to the terms specified in the advertisement.

It will be seen by the extracts which appeared in our last number, as well as from those which are inserted in the present, that a deputation of the British and Foreign Anti-Slavery Society has been visiting the counties of Warwick, Gloucester, Worcester, Somerset, Devon, and Cornwall. The cities and towns already visited are as follows:—Birmingham, Stratford-on-Avon, Worcester, Cheltenham, Gloucester, Stroud, Bristol, Taunton, Devonport, Plymouth, Tavistock, Kingsbridge, Liskeard, Truro, Falmouth, Helstone, and Penzance, in all which places, we are happy to learn, there has been a warm and hearty response to the appeals made on behalf of suffering and oppressed humanity.

WE direct attention to a correspondence which appears in another column, between the Committee of the British and Foreign Anti-Slavery Society and the Colonial Office, in relation to the extinction of slavery in Ceylon. It will be in the recollection of our readers that the last remnant of slavery as sanctioned by law in the British dominions existed in that island, in the case of a small number of persons (about four hundred) still held in bondage. The Committee rejoice to learn, in reply to the inquiry which they thought it their duty to make on this subject, that an ordinance for the final abolition of slavery in Ceylon has been passed by the Governor, and has received the sanction of Her Majesty in Council. This step we are sure will be duly appreciated by the British public, but by none more cordially than ourselves, and we tender our sincere thanks to Her Majesty's Government for it. It will be a high gratification for every Englishman to be able to say that, according to law, there is no longer a slave under the dominion of his sovereign. It yet remains, however, in India particularly, that the freedom which the law de-

clares should be realized by those whose bondage is as yet practically prolonged.

FROM the West India mails we have selected such extracts as were pertinent to our columns. The most important part of the intelligence they bring relates to the rural police ordinance which has been enacted in British Guiana, the first of those mischievous and oppressive measures some time since announced. This important ordinance we have noticed at length in another page. Immigration from Africa seems not to go on very swimmingly. The Berbicians who speculated in the voyages of the *Roger Stewart* have lost money by her second trip, about which they are stated to be, not unnaturally, "very sore." The efforts of the *Senator* from Trinidad having been so unsuccessful that the Governor will not charter her again, the planters of this island also are trying a private speculation, in which the Governor joins them. No doubt these gentlemen will soon be "very sore" likewise. And in this state of things, the little island of Grenada is smitten with the immigration mania, and is actually voting five thousand pounds a-year to this purpose! The intelligence from Barbados discloses the fact that the system of oppression by arbitrary rental is still pursued in that island; but we must express our satisfaction that, in a recent case, it has been rebuked and put down by the Court of Appeal. We wish we could speak in similar terms of the conduct of some other magistrates in that colony. The case of Richard Curtis is a very strong one, not only against Lieutenant Williamson, by whom he was given into custody without a shadow of pretence, but against the magistrates of Bridgetown, who, apparently to shield the military officer from a well-grounded charge of false imprisonment, had recourse to various pretexts in order to prevent the hearing of it. Messrs. Gill and Griffith told Curtis that the complaint must be in writing, or they could not entertain it! Was ever anything more preposterous, or more unjust? We hope the Governor will look to the case, more especially, as we learn that it is far from being a solitary one. Our well-known contemporary, the *Barbadoes Liberal*, thus speaks:—"We publicly bring the subject to the notice of Sir CHARLES GREY, and in the name of the poor of the island, ask how long these things are to be endured? Scarcely a week passes, in which, from almost every parish in the island, complaints do not reach us of unbearable petty tyranny, or the basest subserviency to oppression, on the part of those who are placed among the people to weigh evenly and decide impartially in disputes between them."

THE *Times* gives, as from a "Malta paper," an article on slavery in Tunis, to the effect that the Bey of that regency has not really abolished the slave-trade, and that the British Government has been deceived on this point. We have copied the paragraph as an article of intelligence, with a view to promote the investigation which such a statement calls for. We cannot give immediate credence to it, and we most sincerely hope it will prove to be without foundation.

WE observe by the *Dominica Colonist* of the 4th of October, that a Mr. Edward Lockhart is appointed Coroner of that island. This appointment strikes us painfully. A Mr. Edward Lockhart was among the commissioners of the census, and in that capacity acted a most culpable and mischievous part. He forced open the houses of some of the labourers on Geneva estate, while the occupiers were quietly at work in the field, thus causing an immediate uproar on that property, and contributing largely to the disastrous results which followed. The official documents laid before Parliament give to this gentleman a very unenviable notoriety. The Governor-in-Chief, Sir Charles Fitzroy, thus speaks of him: "I am happy to be able to acquit Mr. Edward Lockhart of the charge of intentional violence," (if it was not accidental how could it be otherwise than intentional?) "on this occasion; but I cannot acquit him of having acted with very great indiscretion, in forcing open two doors and a window of different negro houses which were fastened, particularly as he must have been aware of the excitement which there was among the people at that moment." Lord Stanley also notices him for reproof, in the following terms:—"It is impossible to deny that the conduct of some of those employed, and especially of Mr. Lockhart, was highly indiscreet." Now that this very person should be distinguished by the favour of the Government, and appointed to an office of such peculiar trust as that of Coroner in the West Indies, might seem almost incredible: yet, unless there be two gentlemen of the same name in Dominica, both of them in the way of promotion—a contingency in which we have no faith—this has actually been done. And a worse thing scarcely could have been done. If there was any lesson inculcated by the outbreak of last year in Dominica, it was that the affairs of the island should be confided to prudent men, adapted to engage the confidence of the people; but this lesson, though learned in terror and writ in blood, has, it appears, been speedily forgotten. It might almost seem that the party in power long for another *emeute* in that colony, and for a fresh indulgence in the tyrannical and murderous luxuries of martial law. Certainly it can be no marvel if the man who produced the first should also produce a second. May it not be hoped that the attention of Lord Stanley will be given to this mischievous appointment, and that he will see the necessity of forbidding the application of a torch to matter so easily inflammable as the feelings of a population recently emancipated from the galling yoke of slavery?

SOME extracts from the American papers are in type, but have been crowded out. The following extract of a letter from Pennsylvania to Mr. Sturge, with which we have been favoured, is rendered unusually interesting by the light it throws on the problem of free-labour cotton manufacture:—

*"Pennsylvania, 10th month, 28th, 1845.*

"We are labouring in the free produce concern cheerfully, and hope to engage in the manufacture of free cotton soon. We are surprised to find we can obtain large quantities of this description in Georgia, Alabama, and Mississippi. What will some of your manufacturing friends think of making an arrangement with us to furnish them with free cotton direct from the plantations?"

In answer to this question, we can say, without hesitation, that free-labour cotton from any part of the Union, *properly guaranteed*, would be received in this country with the greatest readiness and pleasure.

IN our first page will be found the second of the two laws which together constitute the measure of the French Government for the regulation of colonial slavery, together with the principal proceedings which took place respecting it in both Chambers. It is simply the authorization of an expenditure, by the Minister of Marine, of the sum of 930,000 francs, about 37,000*l.*, for several purposes more or less nearly connected with the object of the first law. Of this sum, the largest item (16,000*l.*) is appropriated to aid the redemption of slaves, at the discretion of the Government. 14,400*l.* is to be expended on the formation of colonial establishments adapted to supply both employment and punishment to redeemed slaves; 4,800*l.* is set apart for introducing European workmen and labourers into the colonies; and about 1200*l.* is designed to meet the expense of a general valuation of property in French Guiana. The last-named appropriation might seem to have little to do with the business before the Chambers. The Minister explained, however, that the proposition arose out of a plan for organizing a system of free labour in Guiana, which had been submitted to the Government by the planters, and the consideration of which they wished to facilitate by taking this preliminary step. M. de Mackau added that the condition of Bourbon, as well as that of Guiana, was peculiar, inasmuch as the planters there were endeavouring to obtain labourers from Asia, a plan in which the Government was disposed to aid them. So much importance was attached by some speakers to the vote of 16,000*l.* towards aiding slave redemptions, that without it, they affirmed, the first law would be useless, and slavery would be perpetual. That the first law will be useless is but too manifest; and that much can be done by the paltry sum of 16,000*l.*, spent, as no doubt it will be, after the manner of the two supplementary ordinances, to rescue it from its apparent destiny, is altogether improbable. In the discussion of this law, M. Dubois made an exhibition of the deplorable manner in which the funds voted in 1839, for the elementary and religious instruction of the slaves had been misapplied. We have given that part of his speech at length, and commend it to perusal. On being pressed for some observation on the subject, M. de Mackau, after long silence, grudgingly ejaculated, "It is not the time for it." And well did M. Ternaux Compans rejoin, "The time never comes." Oh! "there is something rotten in the state of Denmark;" and state jobbers and tricksters go on trifling at their pleasure with the dearest interests of humanity and justice.

We are glad to observe the frequent notice which has been taken in the papers of the last two or three weeks of the important subject of cotton culture in India. One or two of the parties whose letters have been published have thrown out the opinion that the Anti-Slavery Society was about to take the lead, or at all events an active part, in the formation of a company for promoting this object. It is proper, perhaps, that we should say there is no foundation for such an expectation. An effort of this sort would be altogether, and very widely remote from the proper objects of that Society. The Committee, however, are deeply interested in the subject, and ready at all times to do whatever they can consistently do in relation to it.

#### ANTI-SLAVERY MEETING AT BRISTOL.

(From the *Bristol Mercury*.)

A PUBLIC meeting, convened by placards posted on the walls, was held on Monday evening last in the large Public-room, Broadmead, for the purpose of hearing from Joseph Sturge and John Scoble, Esqrs., as a deputation from the British and Foreign Anti-slavery Society, some details of an interesting and important character, in connexion with slavery. There was a very large attendance.

JOHN EVANS LUNELL, Esq., in taking the chair, said the meeting, as they were no doubt aware, was one of the friends to the abolition of slavery and the slave trade. Happily slavery in the British colonies had wholly ceased, and it was long since this country had anything to do with the slave-trade except in attempting to put it down. (Cheers.) Ample as was the compensation paid for the liberation of the slaves in our West-India possessions, he believed there was no part of our 800 millions of debt which had been so well spent as the 20 millions paid to the planters. (Hear.) He was happy to state that they had present with them that evening John Scoble, Esq., the talented secretary of the Anti-slavery Society—(cheers)—and also Joseph Sturge, of Birmingham—(cheers)—who was well known as a long tried friend of the abolition cause, who had travelled by sea and land in its service, and who had perilled his property, his liberty, and even his life in promoting the well-being of the slave populations. (Loud applause.) He believed that the object of

the present meeting was to hear a statement of the amount of slavery in different parts of the world, and of the lamentable extent to which the slave trade was carried on.

GEORGE THOMAS, Esq., said there seemed of late to have been a kind of apathy throughout this country on the subject of slavery, as if, having abolished it in our own colonies, men had settled down, thinking there was nothing more to do. But they should remember that slavery still existed in other parts of the world, and in the United States of America to three times the extent it had ever done in connection with our own country. It was an anomaly that in that land of boasted freedom there were yet three millions of human beings held in bondage. The slaves in the French colonies, in the Brazils, and the Dutch possessions, were not emancipated, and there seemed to be some danger that, in the Mauritius, slavery might be again introduced. A considerable number of Hill Coolies were constantly being imported, and unless the proceeding was closely watched a form of slavery might again grow up. (Hear.) After hearing the statements of their friends Scoble and Sturge, he felt satisfied that they would not sit down as if nothing remained to be done. In America the system was abominable. A gentleman who had gone out in the *Great Western* met with two passengers who were slave-owners. He discussed the question with them, and as might be imagined, the planters had the worst of it. The discussion, however, ended in the planters' saying to their abolition opponent, "If you come to New Orleans with those abolition notions, we'll hang you up by the neck." He mentioned this, to show what feelings were engendered in those who had unlimited power over the bodies of their fellow-men. (Hear.) It seemed to him that it was, if possible, more important to liberate those who held the slaves from such a contaminating influence than it was to liberate the slaves themselves; for the system of slavery did produce a degree of mental degradation even in the slave-holders, which could scarcely be understood or believed. (Hear.) He had recently read a narrative of Frederick Douglass, who had escaped from slavery in the United States, and the picture he gave of the misery and suffering of the slaves, and of the hardness of heart and barbarity of their masters, it was difficult to describe. Mr. Thomas concluded by proposing—

"That whilst this meeting deeply deplores the continued existence and dreadful atrocities of slavery and the slave-trade, they rejoice to learn the encouraging progress of anti-slavery sentiment and effort in various parts of the world, especially in the United States; and would encourage the philanthropists of this and of every other country to renewed exertions for the complete overthrow of these gigantic evils."

JOSEPH STURGE, Esq., on coming forward was received with much cheering. He said, before his friend Mr. Scoble entered upon some details of the system which it was their object to abolish, he would call their attention for a few minutes to the extent of the evil which the British and Foreign Anti-Slavery Society was labouring to uproot. In the Brazils, at the present moment, there were at least 3,000,000 of slaves. In the United States, which boasted of being the freest country in the world, there were 2,750,000; in the Spanish colonies, 800,000; in the French colonies, 250,000; in the Dutch, Danish, and Swedish possessions, 100,000; in the South American republic, 400,000; and in Texas, 30,000; making the enormous aggregate of 7,330,000 of Africa's descendants now held in the most degrading bondage in the western hemisphere. The laws relating to the management of the slaves were of the most abominable character. They were declared to be absolutely the property of their masters; their food, property, liberty, and everything was given into the hands of their owners. Protection was said to be given to their lives, but in point of fact they might be mutilated, tortured, and slain by their masters, if the atrocious deeds were committed in the presence of slaves only, for their evidence would not be taken as against their masters, in a slave country. Their labour was coerced by the most cruel usage, and it was frequently eked out to such an extent as not only to exhaust their physical strength but to destroy their lives. The average of deaths in the Brazils was full five per cent. per annum above the births, while in Cuba it was as much as seven and eight per cent. over the births. He (Mr. Sturge) knew that there were persons come to England who did not hesitate to state that the slaves were better off than the labouring population of this country. Far be it from him to underrate the sufferings of his fellow working-men in England; but he could state, from personal observation, that even the most degraded freeman in the kingdom would not exchange his condition with the best treated of the slaves. (Applause.) After some further remarks, Mr. S. went on to observe, that no human regulations could check or mitigate the evils of slavery while the system existed, because no human regulations could change the human heart. He would not trouble the meeting with many illustrations, but would give them one or two of a different character. At a meeting of the Anti-slavery Committee in London, last week, a gentleman who had come from the Dutch colony of Surinam, had mentioned the following fact:—Some years ago a number of slaves escaped from the plantations and took refuge in the woods. The planters, after they had endeavoured for a long time to re-enslave them, finding the effort vain, came to a kind of compromise with them, which resulted in their being appointed as a sort of police to capture other run-away slaves. Their instructions were, if they could not take them alive to shoot them, and as it would be troublesome to send the bodies of the slaves to the seat of government, it was arranged that upon giving evidence of the slaughter, and sending down the hands of a killed negro, they should receive seven guilders as their reward. The gentleman added that he had brought home a number of those hands, and they were then at the Custom-house, as a present to the British and Foreign Anti-Slavery Society. The other illustration was of a different character, and was on the authority of a gentleman from New Orleans, who stated that a few years ago there was a man in that town who was of pure negro blood, and of considerable intelligence, and who was free. He had some little capital, which he employed in his business as a carpenter, by which, till his death, he supported his wife and family, in what in England would be considered a state of much respectability. Some years ago, he became acquainted with a very handsome coloured woman, a slave in a family near the city, and in order to have her for his wife he proposed to purchase her of her master. His proposal was acceded to on condition of his paying a large sum down, and the remainder by annual instalments, on paying the last of which the conveyance of the

woman was to be made to him. After they had been married some years, and she had borne him four children, and when nearly all the purchase-money had been paid, he was attacked with disease of the lungs, which terminated his life,—and, would it be believed, the widow, because all her purchase-money had not been paid, was compelled to return to her slavery, and her children, although born in freedom, were by the law of Louisiana obliged to follow her, and become slaves also. The frightful waste of slave life in the island of Cuba would be best understood when they considered that if such mortality were general the whole world would become depopulated in the course of comparatively few years. In America, the waste in the slave-consuming states was supplied from the slave-breeding states, and 70,000 or 80,000 changed hands annually, and were chained together and marched through the country. He had himself visited some of the slave galls, and had seen a mother and seven or eight children sold to New Orleans dealers, each to a separate master. To supply Cuba and the Brazils, the dealers went to Africa, and by various means, predatory warfare, kidnapping, and all kinds of fraud and crime, they carried off the natives as their slaves. In 1807, when the slave-trade was abolished by law, it was calculated that 70,000 annually were carried across the ocean. From the statement of Sir Powell Buxton, which might be relied on, it would be found that in consequence of the British cruisers attempting to stop the trade, the cruelties had not only been increased, but the trade itself had increased in the number of slaves from 70,000 or 80,000 to from 120,000 to 150,000 annually. (Hear.) The waste of life was so enormous in the march overland to the coast, a distance of 2000 miles in the middle passage, and the wars of the interior, that not less than half a million of the inhabitants of Africa were sacrificed annually by people calling themselves Christians. (Hear.) He had lately visited a captured slave-ship in the port of Gloucester, which when taken had 600 or 700 slaves on board. She was not longer than two canal-boats. (Hear.) The sufferings of the Africans must have been dreadful; indeed, he had never conversed with an officer who had seen anything of the slave-trade, who did not agree in describing the scene as horrible beyond description. Mr. Sturge went on to state his conviction that it was unjustifiable to attempt to suppress any crime by the force of arms, and that the present mode of attempting to put down the traffic in slaves would, while it cost millions in this country, and sacrificed the lives of her soldiers and sailors, never succeed. The cure would be the abolition of slavery; for while there were receivers of stolen goods, there would always be found men ready to steal. (Applause.) After referring to the state of slavery in Africa, and the specious arguments by which the slaveholders of that country endeavoured to defend their connection with the horrid system—he alluded to the fact of the ministers of many of the American churches holding slaves; and, declaring their conduct to be unchristian, he expressed surprise that they should have been received as Christian ministers, and allowed to preach in the pulpits of this country. He then continued—It would be remembered that a little time ago there was a great difference of opinion among the advocates of free-trade on the question of altering the duty on slave-grown sugars. He felt it to be due to the Anti-Slavery Society that he should take that opportunity of stating the principles on which it, at that time, acted. (Hear.) He would not yield to any man, or body of men, in zeal for free-trade—in all legitimate commerce; but he could not include in that term stolen goods. Holding the belief that a man took his innocent fellow-man, held him in bondage, and lashed him even to death, in order to coerce him to produce cotton or sugar, he felt that he ought to treat the produce of that labour as stolen goods. (Loud cheers.) They ought to try the question by their own feelings. Would any one whose child or brother had been stolen, and lashed and maltreated to make them produce sugar, purchase one farthing's worth of that sugar when produced? (Cries of "No, no.") If their judgment would not refuse, their feelings would. To show that by purchasing the produce of slave labour they increased slavery, he would call their attention to a few facts. In the year 1784 a vessel came to Liverpool, having on board eight bags of American cotton; and to show that this article had not been imported into Liverpool up to that time, he would mention that those bales were actually seized by the Custom-house officers, under the belief that cotton was not the produce of America. In 1790, so unprofitable was slavery in America that they were about to abolish it in the States. But the growth of the cotton manufactures in England opened a market for slave-grown cotton. In 1790, there were only 189,000 lbs. of cotton imported from America, and the total number of slaves in the United States was 657,000. From that period the imports and number of slaves went on increasing, till, in 1843, there were 1,081,919,000 lbs. of cotton imported, and 2,847,810 slaves employed. (Hear.) If free-trade would destroy slavery, it would have been destroyed long ago in America. He thought, however, that the figures he had given would tend to show practically that purchasing the produce of slave labour did encourage slavery. (Applause.) He had lately had the opportunity of conversing with the principals of some of the leading cotton firms in Manchester; and although they did not sympathise with him in all his views, he found they were anxious to encourage the growth of cotton by free labour. (Hear.) He (Mr. Sturge) hoped that the time was not far distant when they would be able to produce an article which would enable the people of this country to wash their hands of slavery. Mr. Sturge enlarged on this part of his subject at some length, and concluded an eloquent speech by expressing the hope that the period would soon arrive when the sun would neither rise upon a tyrant nor set upon a slave. (Loud cheers.)

J. SCOBLE, Esq., Secretary to the British and Foreign Anti-Slavery Society, in rising to address the meeting, was received with loud applause. After some preliminary observations, he said, although at the present time, in the western hemisphere, there were not less than seven millions of Africans, or the descendants of Africans, held in bondage, yet that amount formed but a small number of those who had been torn from Africa since slavery was first established in the western world. It would be, indeed, impossible to arrive, with any certainty, at the immense number of those who had been torn from their native land, with all its endearing ties and happy associations to glut the avarice or feed the ambition of the slaveholders. The Abbé Rune computed the number, upon what data at his time could be obtained, at not less than thirty millions. Since that period they could not pretend to estimate how many millions had been added to that number. This, however, they knew, that, after

three centuries of slave-trading, there were only seven millions of Africans left enslaved, and it was on behalf of those seven millions that they, as representatives of the British and Foreign Anti-Slavery Society, stood before their fellow-Christians, whom they asked to aid them in their efforts to procure their freedom. (Cheers.) They had already heard that there were annually torn from Africa not less than 120,000, and in some years 150,000 Africans, and that in order to secure the bodies of slaves to supply the slave-markets of Cuba and the Brazils, at least 300,000 human beings were annually sacrificed. It was difficult to form at once the full idea of wretchedness and misery, disease and suffering, degradation and death, which such a statement must suggest to the mind. The figures were too vast to be comprehended at one view. What would be their feelings if they were told that the whole of the inhabitants of Manchester were annually swept away to supply some horrid system? And yet Africa was annually robbed of 300,000 of her children to supply the waste of human life in the slave-market of the western world. It had been ascertained by the British consul that in the last twenty years 2313 cargoes of slaves were known to have been landed in those countries; and, although it was impossible accurately to ascertain the number of beings comprised in those human cargoes, they were returned at, at least, 700,000—(hear)—and there was reason to believe that not less than a million were landed from those vessels alone. What could the people of England know or imagine of the horrors connected with the slave-trade? (Hear.) They heard much of the terrors of the middle-passage—of the cruelty of the predatory warfare which was carried into the interior of Africa—of the miseries which accompanied the land-march over the burning and arid deserts of that ill-fated country; but, after all, it was utterly impossible for them to picture to themselves anything like an adequate idea of the suffering, the cruelty, degradation, and death consequent upon the horrid system. (Applause.) In endeavouring to state to them some of its terrors, he should confine himself to two or three illustrations. He would not dwell upon the appalling fact that all the young African children, captured with their mothers, were invariably put to death, because they should not encumber their parents in the march—he would not dwell upon the masses of bleached bones of human skeletons which marked the slave-routes from the interior, and which some of their countrymen had seen—he would not dwell upon the position in which those bones had been found, clustering around the wells, and indicating the horrors which the poor wretches, whose remains they were, must have suffered from thirst and hunger—nor would he dwell upon the fact that all the slaves rejected by the slave-dealers were universally put to death upon the coast, because they would yield no profit to the chief, having been refused. He would not attempt to paint the horrors of the middle-passage—but would ask them to form some faint idea of them from a statement which was made by Sir Robert Peel, upon a public occasion, in connection with the Niger expedition. Sir Robert Peel stated—and the truth of the circumstance was well-attested—that a slave, with 900 slaves on board, started from Mozambique, on the coast, for the slave-market of the Brazils; after she had been at sea for three days she was overtaken by a violent storm; it raged for forty-eight hours with such fury that during that time it was found necessary to close the hatches and batten down the hold. There were 900 children of Africa packed and chained together without light and without air. And what a sight presented itself when the hold was again opened! Of the human cargo, 300 wretched beings had terminated their sufferings in death; others were parched with fever and raving with frenzy, and all were oppressed by disease. Who could attempt to picture to himself the horrors of those dreadful two days?—the suffering from thirst and terror, and the consciousness of approaching death? (Hear.) After the 300 dead bodies had been thrown overboard the storm recommenced; its fury rendered it necessary again to batten down the hold, and again 300 wretched human beings perished. The vessel then put about for Mozambique harbour, and when she arrived there, out of her cargo of 900 slaves not more than 100 were found alive, and those in the most dreadful state of suffering and disease. But were the hearts of the slave-dealers touched with compassion by the miseries of this voyage? No: they loaded their vessel with another human cargo, which they took to the Brazils, and by it realised a large profit, notwithstanding that they had lost 800 slaves. Although such was not the fate of every slave cargo, yet it had been ascertained that the average mortality was 25 per cent.; and when it was considered that the voyage to the Brazils only occupied from three to five weeks, what a dreadful amount of mortality was that! (Hear.) He would not dwell on the circumstances connected with the sale of the slaves at Cuba and the Brazils—the misery and suffering attendant on their "seasoning"—or the pains and punishment inflicted on them in order to extort unwilling labour; but he would call their attention for a few moments to the internal slavery of America, which, although in some of its features not so bad, was yet, in others, more revolting than that of Africa. (Hear.) Delicacy would not admit of his dwelling on some of the circumstances connected with American slavery. They might imagine all that was vile, disgusting, dreadful, and degrading, and yet they would have but an imperfect conception of some of the revolting circumstances connected with slavery in America. (Hear, hear.) He would state to them one or two facts which had been made known to him by a friend connected with the United States, which would give them a faint idea of some of the evils of American slavery. At a slave sale at St. Louis, in the state of Missouri, a negro was put up who was about 25 years of age, and an excellent workman in iron, but whom his master, by his necessities, was forced to sell: after he had been examined (as beasts of the field were examined), and it had been ascertained that his limbs were sound, his frame active, and his wind unharmed, he was put upon the block, and the sale commenced. The auctioneer dwelt on his knowledge and ability, his skill in ironwork, and general qualities, and the lot attracted the notice of one of the south drivers, who was in the habit of sending slaves to the southern market. The poor fellow perceived that the driver was intent upon buying him, and stepping down from the block, he went across to him, and said imploringly, "I see, master, that you are going to buy me; if you do, you must buy my wife also; see, there she stands, weeping"—pointing to a female close by. The driver replied, "I do not know that I shall buy you; get upon the block." The biddings went on, and the slave again went across to the driver, and again implored him to buy his wife. The dealer gave him a touch with his cane, and said, "Get upon the block, I cannot say that I shall buy you." The sale

proceeded, and the man was knocked down to the dealer. In an agony of supplication, he went again to his purchaser, and said, "Do you buy my wife; I shall be of little use to you without my wife." The cruel reply was, "I did not come here to buy your wife, but to buy you: you will have wives enough when you get to the south." The young man rushed and embraced his wife, and they mingled their tears together. Again he supplicated the dealer to buy her, and again was the boon peremptorily refused. He went once more and fondly kissed the partner of his bosom, and then he seemed to have recovered the dignity of manhood, and standing erect he marched boldly across to his purchaser, and said in a commanding tone, "Will you buy my wife?" The answer was, "No;" and the slave replied, "Then I will never be your slave;" and drawing a razor from his pocket, he cut his throat and fell dead in the presence of the assembled multitude. By the laws of America, the woman was not his wife. The code of the United States forbade marriage between slaves, and yet there were apologists for American slavery to be found among doctors of divinity, who came to this country to preach the religion of the Bible; while there were those among the Christians of this country who would give to such men the right hand of Christian fellowship, and lend them the use of their pulpits to pour their divinity into the ears of Christian audiences. (Applause.) The same friend had told him another incident. He was standing on a wharf, to which some slaves were brought in order to be put on board a steam-boat which was to take them southward: among them was a woman, with a child at her breast, who happened to remain a little behind the rest to pay her infant some maternal attention. The driver was indignant, and called her to come on, and upbraided her for detaining him. She explained to him the reason she had delayed, upon which he snatched her infant from her arms, and, holding it out, said, "Who will have this child?" There was a monster in the crowd who took it from him, and the poor slave mother was forced on board the vessel, and robbed of her tender infant, never to see it more. ("Shame.") And this was according to American law!—this was tolerated and sanctioned in the freest country of the world! Away with such freedom as that! (Loud cheers.) The speaker went on further to describe the horrors of American slavery, and stated that in instances in which God had been pleased to convert the heart of the negro the fact of his being a Christian was put forward at his sale as a means of enhancing the price. He would ask that assembly whether the sale of Christian men and women was not a gross outrage offered to the Redeemer? (Yes, and cheers.) Was it not selling the very image of God, and putting up for sale the very grace of his blessed Spirit? And should they be told that they had nothing to do with slavery in America? (Loud cheers.) His humanity told him that it was his duty to care for the sufferings of his fellow-man, and his Christianity told him that his voice should be raised in earnest protestation against a system which was opposed to the very essence and spirit of Christ's gospel. (Cheers.) Mr. Scoble next proceeded at length to show the blessings which had followed emancipation in our West India colonies, and related several anecdotes to explain how highly the boon of liberty was valued by the negroes themselves. Were the planters as wise as the emancipated slaves were thankful they would, instead of having to mourn decreased crops, have had to rejoice in increasing prosperity. With this, however, they (the Christian public) had nothing to do. The question was one of justice and religion, and they dared not weigh the liberty of a fellow-creature against a hoghead of sugar, a bale of cotton, or a bag of coffee. (Cheers.) The speaker then adverted to the growth of abolition feeling in the United States. Ten or a dozen years ago, and any man who ventured to open his lips on behalf of the slave was subjected to persecution, loss of property, and even of life itself. A change had, however, been brought about. Anti-slavery conventions had been held in all the free states, and he believed that the day was not far distant when anti-slavery societies would be formed even in the slave states of Kentucky, Maryland, and Tennessee. (Cheers.) The Christian churches of America were a short time ago in a state of dead slumber on this great question; now it engaged the attention of divines, and was discussed in their conferences. (Hear, hear.) The churches were all in disruption on the subject, and the northern free churches were separating themselves from the slave-holding churches of the south. Not only was there an awakening of the churches, but a great political movement was going on. There was a party in America which, copying the example of the earlier abolitionists of England, sunk all minor differences in the feeling that the franchise they held was a sacred trust to be used for promoting the liberty of their fellow-men. (Cheers.) In 1840 this party put forward an abolitionist as a candidate for the presidential chair—not, indeed, in the hope of being able to carry him, but with a view of trying their strength. There were 700 American citizens who voted for him; but such was the growth of feeling upon the subject that last year there were 62,000 votes for an abolitionist president—(Cheers)—votes of the very cream of the Christian churches, who were determined to persevere till they had placed a friend of the slave in the chair of government. (Cheers.) Mr. Scoble next adverted to the growth of the anti-slavery cause in France. The government of that country had passed laws recognising the right of the slaves in their colonies to hold private property, to purchase their redemption, in opposition to the will of their masters, and to marry. (Hear.) Let the last privilege be carried out, and slavery would be abolished in the French colonies. How could the government continue slavery, and yet preserve the rights of husband and wife and those of the offspring of their marriage? He believed that they would be obliged to consent to immediate abolition. The question had been undergoing discussion in all the French colonies, and resolutions had been come to that emancipation was not desirable, but that if it took place it ought to be simultaneous and their holders ought to have compensation. (Hear.) After pointing out that the French slaves, dissatisfied with their condition, were already resorting to incendiarism and poisoning, Mr. Scoble adverted to the immigration of Coolies in the West Indies. He denounced the system as productive of incalculable evil, and adverted to the unjust manner in which the free labourers were being taxed for the purpose of importing labourers to compete with them. It should be known, too, that the Coolies were kidnapped and betrayed into emigration by falsehood and fraud. This system was to be extended to our English colonies. No regard to decency was observed, sensual idolaters were introduced to corrupt and demoralise the negroes, and if the system were not closely watched it would lead to a re-enactment of much of the hor-

rors of slavery. Vagrant laws and contract laws were being enacted in the colonies, with the view of again bringing the emancipated negroes under the power of their masters. The Anti-Slavery Society had agents engaged with the Government in endeavouring to effect a removal of these evils, and they now asked the support of the people of England, and particularly of the industrious classes of England, who were interested in the welfare of the labouring man throughout the world—(Hear); and especially they asked the ladies to assist them. They could not forget what had been done by the fair sex in reference to the West India colonies. If the Anti-Slavery Society were only adequately supported, it might work out the emancipation of the whole world; and oh! what a happy day would that be, when there should not remain on the face of the globe a single slave to water the earth which he tilled with his tears, or stain it with his blood. (Cheers.) After referring to the infamous "black code" of laws regulating slavery in Louisiana, by which the mere charity of teaching a slave to read was punishable, upon a second offence, with death, Mr. Scoble concluded by saying he hoped that he had said enough to awaken their sympathy, and to show them that the liberty and happiness of millions of their fellow-creatures were in some sort—in some degree—committed to their care. Mr. S. resumed his seat amid loud cheers.

The Rev. W. LUCY stated, in reference to one remark of Mr. Scoble, that the associated evangelical ministers, of the Baptist and Independent churches in this city, had come to a resolution some years since, not to receive as Christian ministers, or lend their pulpits to, any minister from America who refused to avow himself opposed to slavery.

The resolution was then adopted unanimously.

The Rev. JOHN BURDER then moved, and the Rev. THOMAS HAYNES seconded, the following resolution, which was unanimously adopted:—"That whilst this meeting offer no opposition to the free emigration of labourers to the emancipated colonies, when conducted on sound principles, they feel it to be their duty to denounce the present mode of supplying them with labour, as unjust in principle, unwise in policy, and inhuman and degrading in its consequences; and would earnestly call on her Majesty's government and the British legislature to withdraw their sanction from it. And this meeting would further urge upon the Queen's government the duty of withholding the sanction of the crown from all colonial enactments, whether in the form of vagrant, contract, or other laws, the effect of which may be to place the labouring population within the power of their masters, or to give the local justices concurrent jurisdiction with the stipendiary magistrates in the colonies."

The Rev. GEORGE ARMSTRONG then moved, and the Rev. GEORGE DAVIS seconded, "That this meeting have learned with painful interest the fact that several thousands of British subjects are now held in slavery in the Spanish and Dutch colonial possessions, and would respectfully entreat her Majesty's government to take the necessary measures for securing to them their liberty, and for restoring them to their native homes."

Mr. SCOBLE, in reference to this resolution, stated that our late consul-general at Cuba, Mr. Turnbull, discovered that there were on that island a considerable number of British-born negroes, speaking the English language, who were held in slavery. This was represented to the English Government, and Lord Palmerston determined to rescue them from their bondage, but he was superseded by Lord Aberdeen. The consular-judge at Surinam had also found several British-born slaves there. The present consul at Cuba stated, that there were still several thousand British-born slaves in the island.

The Rev. GEORGE ARMSTRONG moved, and Mr. H. C. HOWELLS seconded the following—"That, convened as we have been for the purpose of aiding in the great cause of freedom from the bonds of slavery, we should deem ourselves wanting to that cause, were we to withhold the expression of our admiration of those magnanimous men and women in the United States of North America, who in the face of unparalleled difficulties (we rejoice to learn now in process of diminution), with a zeal that no danger can damp, with a love that no opposition can quench, continue to be nobly banded in the holy cause of freeing their coloured brethren from the cruellest bondage that has ever afflicted and disgraced the human race. That, in tendering thus the expression of our sentiments, we gladly embrace the opportunity of joining our voice with that of all men, everywhere, who respect the right of free discussion, and the sacred liberty of the press, in condemnation of the atrocious outrage lately committed at Lexington, in Kentucky, in violation of those rights, so nobly, but on that occasion so vainly, sustained by the high-souled, but still indomitable Cassius M. Clay. For those true heroes of humanity we devoutly invoke the blessing of Almighty God; while we hereby offer them our respectful, admiring, and affectionate sympathy."

The Rev. G. ARMSTRONG, in the course of his address, stated that the Unitarian ministers of this country had remonstrated with their American brethren, and had elicited from them an able protest against slavery. He suggested that the ministers of other denominations might, by the same means, effect much good.

The able addresses of the several speakers were warmly cheered, and the resolutions adopted *nem. con.* Thanks were then voted to the chairman, and the proceedings terminated shortly after ten o'clock.

## Home Intelligence.

ANTI-SLAVERY MEETINGS. — PLYMOUTH AND DEVONPORT. — On Thursday evening, the 13th instant, a public Anti-Slavery Meeting was held in the Mechanics' Institution, Devonport. The theatre was crowded, and the deepest interest manifested in the statements of Messrs. Sturge and Scoble. The chair was taken by an old friend of the Society, Mr. Foster; and the Anti-Slavery Committee was revived and re-organized. Among those who rendered the deputation great assistance on the occasion, were the Rev. Messrs. Spencer and Jones. Others took part in the business of the evening, which appeared deeply to impress the audience, and which, it is hoped, will prove of good service to the cause. Friday morning was devoted to Plymouth, where a meeting was held at the Mechanics' Institution, presided over by Mr. Collier, late M.P. for the borough. The gathering was highly respectable for the hour of the day, and the proceedings passed off with

unabated interest to the end. Besides Messrs. Sturge and Scoble, who gave a condensed view of the present state of Slavery and the Slave trade, the progress of Anti-Slavery sentiment and effort in various parts of the world, the emigration of Coolies to the emancipated colonies, &c., &c., were the Revs. Messrs. Nicholson, Jones, Odgers, Mr. Derry, and others. The visits to Devonport and Plymouth afford evidence that the old Anti-Slavery spirit still exists, and that the Society will not want firm and fast friends in these important towns.

**TAVISTOCK.**—On Friday evening, the 14th instant, Messrs. Sturge and Scoble proceeded to Tavistock, where they held a meeting in the large room of the Bedford Hotel. It was crowded to excess, and amply repaid the effort they had made to get there. In the absence of the secretary of the Tavistock Auxiliary, the deputation were greatly aided by our friend Mr. Feaston.

**KINGSBRIDGE.**—A public meeting was held at this place in the evening of the 15th. It was well attended, though called at a short notice, and held on the evening of the market day. Our old and warm friend, Mr. Richard Peek, of Hazlewood, took the chair, and all persons present seemed to be deeply interested in the Anti-Slavery cause. Dr. Jones, Messrs. Nicholson, Fox, and other friends moved and seconded the resolutions, which were presented and passed unanimously. The meeting was invited to ask questions, for the purpose of drawing forth such information as they required.

**LISKEARD.**—On Monday, the 17th instant, Mr. Scoble started for Liskeard, Cornwall, and took up, on his way thither, the Rev. Mr. Spencer, of Devonport, who kindly consented to accompany him to various towns in the county, for the purpose of aiding him in the proceedings. On the evening of that day they met a crowded audience in the Town Hall, and were highly gratified by the spirit which it exhibited. The meeting was presided over by the vicar of the parish, the Rev. Mr. Todd, whose urbanity and interest in the Anti-Slavery cause will not easily be forgotten. Among the friends who assisted on the occasion were Messrs. Adams and Allen. On the following morning (Tuesday), Mr. Scoble met the members of the Ladies' Association and their friends, and had an opportunity of pressing on their attention those practical measures, which, if generally adopted, will greatly advance the Anti-Slavery cause.

**TAURO.**—On arriving at this place, everything appeared unpromising. Mr. Tweedy was absent at Redruth; his son, Mr. W. Tweedy, was engaged at Falmouth; the secretary of the local Auxiliary, Mr. H. Stokes, was unavoidably prevented being present; and there were religious meetings to be held which could not be put off. The deputation, however, applied to E. Turner, Esq., M.P. for the borough, to be chairman of a meeting. He kindly consented. The Town Hall was filled, and the deputation were listened to with very deep interest. Our friends the Tweedys, the Rev. Mr. Moore, and others, dropped in and took part in the proceedings, which did not end till nearly ten o'clock. All were gratified by the result.

**THE FELICIDADE AND THE ECHO.**—In the Court of Exchequer, on Saturday, the 15th instant, the fifteen judges heard the arguments of counsel in the case of Serva and others tried at Exeter for the murder of Mr. Palmer, on the points reserved for their opinion. The arguments related chiefly to the alleged illegality of the capture. The judges retired without giving their opinion, and have since expressed their desire to hear the case re-argued by two civilians from Doctors' Commons. The prisoners have, in consequence, been further respited until the 15th of December.

### Colonial Intelligence.

**JAMAICA.—IMMIGRATION FACTS.**—The African immigrants in Hanover are never taken to any school or church. They are not decently clothed. They live, boys and girls, in the same house, and in the same rooms indiscriminately, some of the houses not being floored. Several have wandered about begging victuals from actual starvation. Some of these immigrants are not allowed to visit their countrymen on other properties, or to receive their visits at their own houses. This is especially the case with those located on a pen, the property of Mr. H. E. Walcott, Justice of the Peace. These poor children are not allowed to go beyond the limits of the property—Sundays not excepted. We are informed that they think they are slaves.—*Baptist Herald*.

According to the *Morning Journal* it will require, on the lowest calculation, one hundred thousand pounds per annum of additional taxation to supply this island with six thousand Coolies per year. For our own part, it remarks, we think the measure of Coolie immigration so fraught with absurdity and injustice, and so unlikely to confer any permanent benefit on the country, that we are surprised to find men of experience and reflection at all favourable to it.

A CORONER'S INQUEST was held on the 25th of September, at Rock River estate, in the parish of Clarendon, on the body of a Hill Coolie who died suddenly. The verdict was, that he died from congestion of the brain produced by the excessive use of spirituous liquors.—*Baptist Herald*.

**QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS.**—Where are the thousands of Irish and German immigrants?—Mouldering in the grave. Where the Africans from Sierra Leone?—Wandering about from estate to estate, with no settled habitation—no instruction—but with discontent at the treatment they have received, and with their superstitions and ignorance in full operation. These men have now become the "obeah men" of the land—the children, the tricky corrupters of our youth—and the wanton, ah! where are they? Where are the Hill Coolie women?—*Baptist Herald*.

**ST. CHRISTOPHER'S.—EUROPEAN IMMIGRATION.**—In the House of Assembly, on the 30th of September, Mr. Challenger said that it was in the recollection of the House that two large sums of money had been recently granted to the Agricultural Society for the purpose of promoting European immigration into this colony—no report had been made to the House of the manner in which the money had been expended,—he begged

to move, "That application be made to the President of the Agricultural Association requesting a return, setting forth the manner in which the two sums of 500*l.* and 1,000*l.* granted by the Legislature for the promotion of European immigration into this colony have been expended—the number of persons introduced, their names and occupations—how they have been disposed of, and whether the parties receiving them have paid any sums as bounty to the Society." After some discussion, the motion, on a division, was carried.—*St. Christopher's Gazette*.

**GRENADA.—IMMIGRATION.**—The House of Assembly is occupied with a bill for applying 5,000*l.* annually to the introduction of labourers. It is proposed to raise the money by a tax of 6*d.* per gallon on the rum consumed in the colony.—*St. George's Chronicle*.

**BARBADOS.—RENT-OPPRESSION.**—A case was heard before the Court of Appeal, on the 19th of September, in which an attempt was made to exact double rent for a cottage, because the occupier would not work on the estate on which it was situated. The Court very properly frustrated the attempt, with costs.—*Barbados Liberal*.

**UNJUST MAGISTRATES.**—The *Liberal* narrates the case of Richard Curtis, a black man, who, having been engaged to deliver a letter for another person to Lieut. Williamson, was given into custody by that officer, because he would not tell where the party who sent him might be found! When the case was brought before the magistrates the military officer quickly ordered his prisoner to be released, having had a hint, no doubt, to this effect from the magistrates: but when Curtis wanted to bring a charge of false imprisonment against him, they evaded it by various pretexts, and at last told him they could not entertain it unless it was in writing!

**TRINIDAD.—AFRICAN IMMIGRATION.**—We have heard that her Majesty's Government have consented to afford increased facilities for securing a free immigration from the coast of Africa, and have already adopted measures of an effective nature in promotion of our wishes, in accordance with the suggestions of his excellency the Governor.—*Trinidad Standard*.

The Senator having had such bad success in bringing emigrants from Sierra Leone that the Governor would not charter her again at the public expense, he has combined with several planters in chartering her for another voyage as a private speculation.—*Ibid*.

**BRITISH GUIANA.—MEDICAL ATTENDANCE.**—There has been for several years a large mortality in the parish of St. Catherine, Berbice, which the *Berbice Gazette* ascribes to want of medical attendance. A correspondent of the *Congregational Record* thus notices it:—"I believe that the people paid more for the medical attendance than it was worth. Some of our doctors were willing to attend to their practice, but were not able. Others were criminally negligent. A Portuguese in the district, whose fee is not lower than the usual one, meets with considerable encouragement. In some cases where there has been no regular engagement with the doctor, a fear of exorbitant charges has prevented him being called in until it was too late. I have heard of a case in which a doctor demanded 7 dollars 33 cents before he would look at a poor and dying man. I paid the handsome sum of 109 dollars to the order of one for four days' attendance, &c., on a poor man who lost his life in a fall. I believe that great numbers have had their constitutions ruined by the hardships of former years, and that many valuable lives have been lost for the want of prompt and good medical attendance, for which they were both able and willing to pay."

**IMMIGRATION FROM MADEIRA.**—Two vessels have arrived from Madeira; a schooner, the *Florida Primo Vera* of 86 tons, that came in on Tuesday with 46 immigrants from Madeira, and a brig, the *Duas Annas*, of 147 tons, which followed her the next day with 81 of the natives of that island.—*Guiana Gazette*.

The *Roger Stewart* had arrived at Berbice, from Sierra Leone, with 180 African immigrants. The parties by whom it is chartered are said to be losers by the adventure, and, as a matter of course, are sorely disappointed.—*Guiana Times*.

### Foreign Intelligence.

**SWABIA.—EMANCIPATION OF SERFS.**—The *Swabian Mercury* gives the following from Lemberg (Gallicia), 10th October. It is generally believed that the peasants of our province will be emancipated. The States have been occupied with this question for the last fortnight, whereas formerly they confined themselves to the discussion of the propositions of the Government. In 1843, the Marshal of the diet of Wasilewsky begged his Majesty the Emperor to make a change in certain relations between the nobles and the peasants. The Emperor received the request favourably, and demanded explanations on the subject from the States. Count Potatry, in consequence, proposed to the Diet of 1844, to give the peasants an interest in the soil which he possessed, and to introduce mortgage registers. The Diet obtained the authorisation of the Emperor to appoint a committee to draw up regulations concerning the position of the peasants. This committee has been named, and is composed of thirty-six members. A public functionary forms part of it.

**MADAGASCAR.**—There are at least sixteen British subjects in the province of Tamatave implicated in illegal slaveholding, as well as Frêne Mazendré. We could cordially approve a law cutting off those unworthy subjects of so noble an empire from all the rights and privileges of citizens. If they will act in a manner so contrary to the spirit and letter of the British constitution, they are unworthy to enjoy its protection.—*Mauritius Watchman*.

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